(*b*) at what stage it is to-day; and

(*c*) what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" (*a*) The Madanapalle Co-operative Building Society has undertaken the Government-sponsored Housing Scheme at Madanapalle."

" (*b*) An extent of 33·61 acres of land has been acquired and handed over to the society. The land has been laid out into 165 plots; 96 plots have so far been allotted to the members and the rest are pending allotment. The society has got approved 20 type designs of houses and has worked out the necessary estimates. Construction of 12 wells had been completed and foundations have been excavated in respect of six houses. Loan applications are under preparation."

" (*c*) No action by Government is called for in the present stage of the affairs of the society."

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" ఇప్పుడు మదనపల్లిలో రెండు వేలమంది చేతిపనివారు అనగా బేలుదార్లు, కొయ్య పనివారు పనులు లేక నిరుద్యోగులై పస్తులు ఉండుకొంటున్నారు కాబట్టి, ప్రభుత్వం అన్ని గృహములయొక్క నిర్మాణం ఒకదఫాలో వెంటనే శాంక్షన్ (sanction) చేస్తుందా? కరువుకాటకాలలో బాధపడుతున్న పై వారికి పని కల్పించే నిమిత్తం ఈ విషయమై శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొంటుందా?"

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" కరువుచేత నిరుద్యోగులైన బాధపడుతున్న వారికి పనులు కల్పించే నిమిత్తం ఈ గృహ నిర్మాణ ప్రణాళిక ఉద్దేశింపబడలేదు. వారికి పని కల్పించే నిమిత్తం అనేక ప్రణాళికలున్నాయి."

Collection of house tax by panchayat boards.

* 248 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state what are the reasons which prompted the Government to authorize panchayat boards to levy a new tax called house tax in panchayat board areas in this State?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to section 63 of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, under which the levy of house-tax, amongst others, by panchayats is obligatory."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that people are overburdened with so many taxes and there is so much unemployment in the country, will the Government be pleased to withdraw these new taxes? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The house tax is the main source of revenue for the panchayats. If they are to do some work and improve the villages, they have to tax the people there."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Sir, may I know, whether the Government have received any memorandum from the people in

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the panchayat area stating that the taxes are too heavy for them to pay and therefore these taxes should either be cancelled or reduced at least? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, the rates are fixed by the panchayat board itself. So the question of heaviness does not come in."

11-20 a.m. JANAB M. S. MOGRAL :—" May I know whether the Government propose to exempt distressed weavers and unemployed weavers from the payment of house-tax? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Wherever there is distress, I think deserving weavers are being exempted from the payment of house-tax."

SRI K. V. RAMESAM :—" Will the Government at least exempt for one year those panchayats which are not willing to impose the house-tax on their inhabitants? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" I think it is open to the legislature to do it."

Pudukkottai Land Mortgage Bank.

* 249 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state when the Pudukkottai Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank was formed in Pudukkottai Division, Tiruchirappalli district?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" The Pudukkottai Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank was registered on 11th April 1950 and started on 10th June 1950."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is the governing body of the bank elected or nominated and if nominated, why? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" It is a nominated body, Sir."

Glass Bead Training Centres.

* 250 *Q.*—JANAB M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Glass Beads Training Centres are conducted by the Government in this State;

(*b*) how many students were trained at these centres centre-war each year ever since their inception;

(*c*) how many students are undergoing training at Kasargod centre during the current year; and

(*d*) what is the annual expenditure on each centre?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" (*a*) Two Glass Bangles and Beads Training centres are being conducted by the Department of Industries and Commerce—one at Kalahasti (Chittoor district) and the other at Kasargod (South Kanara district).